

4 June 1982
MMB-2006

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Swaziland Bureau--May 1982

I. GENERAL

Ambassador and Mrs. Matheron departed Swaziland on 27 May to return to the United States, where the Ambassador has been assigned as Diplomat-in-Residence at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. The position is considered a senior assignment in the State Department, and Ambassador Matheron hopes to receive another overseas post after a year at Tuskegee. The new ambassador, political appointee Robert H. Phinny, is not expected to arrive in Swaziland now until late July or early August. According to biographical information available to the Embassy, Phinny has close ties to the Republican Party in Michigan and to former President Ford and his wife is a member of the Gerber Baby Food family. Political/Econ Officer Jeff Hartley is serving as Charge until the new ambassador's arrival.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial

1. The bureau began filing material on 4 May, the first piece a Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL editorial on a meeting between South African Prime Minister Botha and Zambian President Kaunda entitled "Not a Bad Start. . ." Primary coverage thus far has consisted of Johannesburg Domestic Service casts in both Afrikaans and English as well as four South African English-language papers. The bureau is also covering Capital Radio, a commercial radio broadcasting in English from the black homeland of Transkei in South Africa, the local Swaziland radio and press in English, Lesotho Domestic Service in English and a daily Mozambique broadcast in English.

2. The bureau's monitorial staff was increased to three with the entrance on duty of a second Afrikaans/English monitor on 10 May. Another applicant, with Afrikaans, French and German capability, has been offered a job but is still deciding whether to accept or not.

3. Abidjan Bureau French/English monitor [] agreed to come to Swaziland on TDY for six months to train the bureau's monitors. [] is scheduled to arrive in mid-July and, although only temporary, will be a welcome addition to the staff.

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B. Lateral Services

1. As one of Ambassador Matheron's last acts in Swaziland, he conveyed to the Swazi Government a package of bureau-prepared materials reflecting the types of information available from FBIS and plans for Swaziland Bureau as far as both staffing and coverage are concerned. The Deputy Prime Minister replied to the Ambassador that they would be naming an official to discuss with the bureau exactly what the Government would like to receive and to whom it should be delivered.

2. The bureau became involved in its first special service to the Embassy on 19 May when the Ambassador called to ask about a South African radio report on the Swazi King's intentions regarding South African territory which is slated to be transferred to Swaziland. The bureau's newest monitor had heard the report in question on Transkei Capital Radio and had already texted it on his own initiative. One copy was handcarried to the Ambassador and another was subsequently passed to the Swazi Government.

C. Technical

Initial indications are that the bureau's reception of all targets of primary and secondary interest should clearly exceed expectations. Due to delays in renovation work, the bureau's antennas have only been erected in temporary configurations (the one providing the best reception is sitting on the ground behind the bureau). But even with the present arrangement it has been possible to get at least fair reception of all stations south of Zaire, including Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese for large portions of the day. An Angolan clandestine radio that was completely unheard in Abidjan and Nairobi was monitored by the bureau during the month with fair to good reception.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. [] entered on duty 10 May as an Afrikaans/
English media analyst. [] was born in South Africa
but was naturalized as a Swazi citizen []

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2. [] entered on duty on 17 May as a
communications operator. [] is a Swazi citizen
born and raised in the country.

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B. Building and Grounds

Renovation work on the bureau began dragging during the month when the workers hit the detailed, finishing work on the monitoring rooms, lounge, bathrooms and deputy chief's office. The final appearance of the rooms is quite nice, but the contractor has not progressed nearly as far as he had originally estimated. The servants quarters attached to the garage have been converted into a generator room, and the necessary electrical cable has been sunk underground between that room and the bureau, but there remains some substantial work to be done on the front part of the bureau where offices for the bureau chief and secretary as well as editorial and communications rooms are to be located. It looks like another 3-4 weeks will be required to complete all of the necessary work.

IV. VISITS

1. FBIS Director [] visited the bureau from
23 to 26 May as part of an inspection trip to overseas
installations.

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2. London Bureau teletype supervisor [] arrived
on 9 May to help get the bureau's communications procedures
in full order and train the bureau's initial communications
operator.

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Chief, Swaziland Bureau, FBIS

Attachment:
Production Report

cc: Chief, Abidjan Bureau

SWAZILAND BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MAY 1982

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	22,590
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	5,980
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	61

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	165 min.		19 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

LESOTHO

Maseru Domestic Service in English	330	
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SOUTH AFRICA

Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans	1,260	
Johannesburg Domestic Service in English	2,010	
Umtata Transkei Capital Radio in English	2,580	
Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English		7,180
Johannesburg THE STAR in English		470
Johannesburg THE SUNDAY EXPRESS in English		3,750
Johannesburg THE SUNDAY TIMES in English		3,620

SWAZILAND

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English		960
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ZIMBABWE

Harare Domestic Service in English	430	
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